

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JAKART 03064 140804Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 140600Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7034

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 3064

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ID CB TH

SUBJ: POSSIBLE LON NOL-SIHANOUK CONTACT

1. I ASKED ALGERIAN CHARGE BOUKHARI MARCH 13 WHETHER HE WAS AWARE OF ANY CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN MEMBERS INDONESIAN OPEC DELEGATION AND ALGERIANS ON CAMBODIA. HE SAID IN RECENT MONTHS THERE HAVE BEEN VARIOUS DISCUSSIONS IN JAKARTA AND IN ALGIERS WITH INDONESIANS ON CAMBODIA. INDONESIANS WANT ALGERIANS TO INTERVENE WITH CHINA BUT HE UNDERSTANDS CHINESE TURNED DEAF EAR TO ANY APPROACH RELATED TO INDONESIA BECAUSE OF INDONESIAN ATTITUDE TOWARD PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC. HE DOUBTED INDONESIA CAN, THEREFORE, PLAY USEFUL ROLE IN CAMBODIAN PROBLEM.

2. HE THEN WENT ON TO DESCRIBE AT SOME LENGTH ALGERIAN ATTITUDE WHICH, I AM SURE, IS FAMILIAR TO DEPARTMENT, NAMELY, THAT ALGERIA WANTS TO SEE QUICK RETURN OF SIHANOUK TO PREVENT COMPLETE TAKEOVER BY KHMER ROUGE. ALGERIA WANTS NON-ALIGNED CAMBODIA AND DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT CAMBODIA UNDER KHMER ROUGE WOULD FOLLOW NON-ALIGNED POLICIES. HE SAID OPINION EXISTS IN ALGERS THAT CHINESE WOULD BE PREPARED FACILITATE SIHANOUK'S RETURN TO PHNOM PENH EVEN IF IT WAS CONTRARY TO KHMER ROUGE DESIRES. NEWSOM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERVENTION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975JAKART03064
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750089-0619
From: JAKARTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750351/aaaabtfv.tel
Line Count: 51
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <10 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE LON NOL-SIHANOUK CONTACT
TAGS: PFOR, ID, CB, TH, OPEC
To: STATE ALGIERS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006